Rotation of Garden Crops in Florida.

A correspondent, of the Southern Ruralist, writing from Marion county, Fla., tells what he has done in the way of gardening on a small scale. He was quite successful, but no more so than you may be if you will fertilize as heavily, plant as closely and take as good care of your crop.

I have one-fourth of an acre of ground adjoining my yard that I use for a garden. I herded 150 head of sheep and 10 cows on this every night until it was quite rich, breaking the ground several times while so doing. To plant this garden I broke it very deep, laid off rows 4 feet, and planted in Irish potatoes the 20th of September. These came up quickly and grew fast. (This land is grey mellow pine land and easily cultivated). I had planted some cabbage seed in a shaded bed, and when working the potatoes the first time—October 10th—set the cabbage plants between the rows in water furrow.

Will say here that after ground is thoroughly prepared I never put a horse in garden any more. I cultivate with Planet, Jr. garden plow. Stir the ground every week to keep down grass and weeds. About December 1st potatoes were ready for use. I let these potatoes (Bliss Triumph) stay in ground all winter, digging as needed for sale or table use. They will keep all winter where soil is not too wet. The yield was large and paid well.

I commenced cutting white firm head cabbage at Christmas, and had no troube to sell all at a fair price—5c to 20c per head; Some weighing 17 3-4 pounds. Cabbage was cleared away by February 14th, so I planted where cabbages were in Valentine beans; they make in six weeks here. Let potatoes stay until they began to sprout, dug out, marketed at $1.00 per bushel at my door to sawmill and turpentine hands. Planted between beans, where potatoes were, in corn March 1st. Beans did very well, and as they began to be gathered I planted squash and cucumber in half and half each in the row with the c Each of these gave me good returns and sold readily. After selling corn I cut out the stalks and fed to horse and cows.

I worked each crop once every week. After these crops were off I again brought my sheep and cows on it for two weeks, broke up well again with horse, and planted in August in Cawhorn turnips. Now this is the crop that really paid me better than any of the others. As soon as they were up with four or five leaves I began to thin out and sell for greens. which at this season here are scarce. Thinned out to three inches, then quit pulling up the plants; cultivated well, and in a week or two began to crop off the leaves and sell. And they are like the widow's barrel of meal and csuise of oil—the more you pulled off the larger they grew. These tops continued to grow and gave us nice fresh greens all the fall and winter, and the way those turnips grew is surprising; some measuring 12 inches in circumference and 2 feet long. The amount of greens I sold from those was surprising, and since Christmas I have been feeding the roots to my Jersey cow and the tops to my chickens. They have paid me well.

The sheep and cows are on this patch again now, March 1st, and I will commence with my spring rotation of crops, of which I will write again if this does not find the waste-basket.

What I have given I call my fall rotation.

Plenty of proper kind of fertilizer, proper preparations and frequent working, with plenty of rain or irrigation, and last, but not least, a ready market, and any one who will can make money and live well on a small plat of land by rotating and diversifying crops, garden or field.

Always has Gentle Horses.

It is a common expression to speak of breaking a colt. Yet it is not the proper one at all. The colt should be so trained that it will not need any breaking. A writer tells, in Farm and Fireside, how he manages:

I always have good, gentle horses. The first lesson is given when the colt is just a few days old. I tie the dam so as not to be hindered by her. I catch the colt and hold it until it gets quiet and over its scare. Then I place one arm around the neck near the body and the other behind hips where the breeching works, and then say "Get up," at the same time giving the colt a push. In a little while it will learn to obey every command. It can be taught to back by saying "back" at the same time pushing it back. When it obeys give it an apple or a little sugar or salt. By working this way you will be surprised how soon it will obey you.

When going to the pasture I generally have a bite of something for the colts. In training them in this way they- expect something when they see me, and they are never hard to catch, or never seem to dread or fear man.

In teaching a colt the word "whoa," I do it by holding. Or tie the dam and then tie the colt near her. After it has quit struggling I say "whoa," at the same time rubbing it. In a little while it will learn when you say "whoa" that it means stop.

When breaking the colt to work I put harness on with ropes in the traces. Having someone to lead, I get behind and say "get up," when my helper leads it forward; at the same time I give the traces a slight pull. If the colt frets or gets mad, I cease pulling until it is quiet; then I commence again. In this way the colt gets used to collar presure and goes quietly. After breaking in this way, I hitch to something heavier, always being careful not to get them fretted. In working a colt I never get in a hurry, or pull a load but a few steps, letting them stop and rest. I find a light sled or a drag the best thing to hitch to. I hitch them to a sled, giving a side pull about a step or just enough to move it sideways a little, and next time I go a little further and when they will move it readily to either side, then I pull it endways, being careful not to pull too far. When the colt seems willing to pull any way I put on a light load and increase as circumstances will allow. After the colt has learned to pull, I then learn him to drive. This can be done easily by having the helper turn right and left, at the same time pulling the line in that direction. In a short time the colt will turn without being led.

In breaking the colt to ride I find it a good plan to leave it tied in the stall, and put a small boy on, holding him carefully. Do not throw the boy on or get the colt scared. Let the boy rest his legs on the colt's side or back at first, and slip him on as the colt quiets down. When the colt is quiet, lead it up and make it back where it is tied. When broken in this was he can be taken from the stall and led.

Right Care of the Harness.

A good harness costs too much to be allowed to go to pieces sooner than is necessary. The following direction for the care of harness are from the Harness Gazette:

If properly cared for there is many years use in a well made harness. If neglected, the best made harness will last but a short time.

Moisture is the great enemy of leather and the first aim should be to remove it. It is not an uncommon thing to find harness wet with rain or moisture from the horse, hung up dry with the traces tied into knots, the rains rolled up, the pads and bridles hung upon pins, without a moment's time having been spent on them to remove mud or moisture.

In a little time the leather dries, the strapping becomes set to a greater or less extent, taking the shape given it when wet, so that when subsequently straightened out the stiching is damaged.

Unless harness leather is kept soft and pliable it soon loses its strength. To keep it in good condition care must be had to have it well filled with grease. Mud is a persistent enemy to leather. It sucks the grease from the leather while drying. In cases where the mud is of a clayey nature, its action is to harden the leather. Then it cannot be restored to its original condition. The worst enemy to harness is the sweat from the animal. It penetrates leather, stitching, and to and around the iron. Owing to its salty nature, it rusts or rots all it comes in contact with.

With such enemies to contend with it becomes necessary to adopt measures to conteract their bad influences. The first step to be taken is to remove all foreign matter from the surface. This may be done by the use of tepid water and Crown soap, using no more water than is really necessary to remove the foreign matter.

After the washing, dry the straps with a chamois, and rub them well with a greasy rag. If the leather has been thoroughly wet the straps should be unbuckled and then well washed. Where possible, remove the mountings. and after cleaning them warm the bolt ends before screwing them into nuts. The heat will dry out whatever moisture that may have got in around the nuts.

When hanging harness remember that light and air drive away moisture, preserve the leather from mould and the metal parts from rust.

Fighting Weeds or Grass.

The Eptomist tells how this ought to be kept up throughout the entire season:

During the season of cultivation there is no time when the crops can not be profitably worked, except when the soil is too wet. Even after the crops are laid by, "the man with the hoe" can render good service in the field in cutting down stray weeds and digging out bunches of grass where the cultivator has failed to reach them and thus prevent them from going to seed and giving trouble the following season. Next to insects, weeds and grass are the greatest hindrances to successful farming and only by constant pulling and hoeing can the farm be kept clean. One slovenly farmer in a neighborhood is a constant damage to the entire community by allowing the weeds to grow in his fields and the seeds to be scattered broadcast by the wind.

Cure for Kicking Cows.

In answer to a request in the Ohio Farmer for a method to keep a cow from kicking, G. W. Lee submits the following plan: Some years ago we obtained a good butter cow, but an inveterate kicker. Numerous plans had been used to break the habit, but to no avail. After some thought we procured a fifteen inch strip of wood, put a hole in both ends, large enough for a hame strap, and then buckled it on the cow's leg. She kicked for some time, but could only lift her foot and kick backward, while I milked her with ease. After using this method for awhile she would permit even a child to milk her.

And now comes a well known Savannah man—Sigo Myers, well known in Tampa—and attests that denatured alcohol can be manufactured at 6 to 8 cents per gallon. He predicts immense things from its coming into general use for light, heating and for power. It will turn the grindstone, saw the wood, shell the corn, chop the feed, churn the milk and do all manner of other chores, saving a great deal of labor on the farm. It will run the autos, freight wagons and cars of the cities, and in fact willrev-cars of the cities, and in fact wil rev-cheap power. Some of which is no doubt true in a degree.—Tampa Times.